

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A mobile node comprising:

a measuring section for measuring a first value of at least one of a hop number and communication delay time ~~to a home~~ between the mobile node and a belonging home agent to which the mobile node belongs, wherein the belonging home agent registers a care-of address that the mobile node is utilizing for communication, and the belonging home agent forwards messages directed to a home address of the mobile node to the care-of address;

a home agent information acquiring section for acquiring information ~~about~~ about a new home agent when the first value is equal to or greater than a first predetermined value, the acquired information about the new home agent including a second value of at least one of a hop number and communication delay time between the mobile node and the new home agent ~~as a subject of measurement of the measuring section~~; and

a home agent selecting section for changing from the belonging home agent to the new home agent when the second value is less than the first value, ~~when a measurement value to the home agent to which the mobile node belongs becomes equal to or greater than a first predetermined value~~, ~~from the belonging home agent to a new home agent~~, the belonging home agent and the new home agent being associated to a same home network of the mobile node, ~~by using the information which acquired in the acquiring section, having a measurement value equal to or less than a second predetermined value~~, wherein the new home agent ~~after the change~~ forwards messages directed to the home address of the mobile node to the care-of address after the change.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) A mobile node according to claim 1, wherein the measuring section determines the hop number by computing a difference between an

initial value of a hop limit field in a header of a packet of IP version 6 sent from the belonging home agent and a value of the hop limit field received.

4. (Currently Amended) A mobile node according to ~~claim 2~~claim 1, wherein the measuring section determines the hop number by computing a difference between an initial value of a hop limit field in a header of a packet of IP version 6 sent from the belonging home agent and a value of the hop limit field received.

5. (Currently Amended) A mobile node according to claim 1, wherein the measuring section determines the communication delay time by measuring a time of from sending the home agent an ICMP echo request packet to receiving an ICMP echo reply packet from the belonging home agent.

6. (Currently Amended) A mobile node according to ~~claim 2~~claim 1, wherein the measuring section determines the communication delay time by measuring a time of from sending the home agent an ICMP echo request packet to receiving an ICMP echo reply packet from the belonging home agent.

7. (Original) A mobile node according to claim 1, wherein the measuring section increases a measuring frequency of communication delay time when the moving speed of the mobile node is high, and decreases the measuring frequency when the moving speed is low.

8. (Original) A mobile node according to claim 3, wherein the measuring section sends an ICMP echo request packet when the number of times of connection changes to the access router becomes an integer times a fifth predetermined value.

9. (Currently Amended) A home agent comprising: a home agent information notifying section for answering a registration refusal to a mobile node and notifying the mobile node of a ~~changed-to~~new home agent in a case that, when receiving a registration request from the mobile node, the home agent is deficient in unoccupied resource, the home agent and the ~~changed-to~~new home agent being associated to a same home network of the mobile node, wherein the changed-to home agent registers a care-of address that the mobile node is utilizing for communication, and after the change the changed-to home agent forwards messages directed to a home address of the mobile node to the care-of address.

10. (Original) A home agent according to claim 9, further comprising a home agent information storing section for storing home agent information including an address and current resource information of another home agent, wherein the home agent information notifying section answers the registration refusal and selects a home agent suited for a predetermined condition from the home agent information storing section to thereby answer home agent information of the selected home agent.

11. (Original) A home agent according to claim 10, wherein the predetermined condition is at least any of a maximum in unoccupied resource and a minimum in load.

12. (Currently Amended) A home agent comprising: a home agent information notifying section for answering a registration refusal to a mobile node and notifying the mobile node of a ~~changed-to~~new home agent in a case that, when received a registration request from the mobile node, the mobile node entered a predetermined sub-network, the home agent and the ~~changed-to~~new home agent being associated to a same home network of the mobile node, wherein the ~~changed-to~~new home agent registers a care-of address that the mobile node is utilizing for communication, and after the change the ~~changed-to~~new home agent forwards messages directed to a home address of the mobile node to the care-of address.

13. (Original) A home agent according to claim 12, further comprising a home agent information storing section for storing home agent information including an address of another home agent, wherein the home agent information notifying section answers the registration refusal and selects a home agent having as a control range the sub-network to thereby answer home agent information of the selected home agent.

14. (Previously Presented) A home agent according to claim 11, wherein the registration refusal and the home agent information are an addition of a home agent information option to a binding acknowledgement message.

15. (Currently Amended) A home agent comprising: a home agent information notifying section for notifying when a new home agent of an entry content concerning the mobile node of a binding cache, in response to receiving a notification for changing a home agent and an address of a changed-to home agent from a belonging mobile node to change from the home agent to the new home agent, the notification being received from the mobile node when a second communication delay between the mobile node and the

new home agent is less than a first communication delay between the mobile node and the home agent~~the changed to home agent of an entry content concerning the mobile node of a binding cache~~, the home agent and the ~~changed to~~new home agent being associated to a same home network of the mobile node, wherein the ~~changed to~~new home agent registers a care-of address that the mobile node is utilizing for communication, and after the change the ~~changed to~~new home agent forwards messages directed to a home address of the mobile node to the care-of address.

16. (Currently Amended) An access router comprising:

a home agent information storing section for storing home agent information including an address of a home agent; and

a home agent information notifying section for notifying a mobile node, as a slave, of home agent information about another neighboring home agent stored in the home agent information storing section, the home agent and the neighboring home agent being associated to a same home network of the mobile node, wherein ~~if the the~~ mobile node changes from the home agent to the neighboring home agent when a second communication delay between the mobile node and the neighboring home agent is less than a first communication delay between the mobile node and the home agent, the neighboring home agent registers a care-of address that the mobile node is utilizing for communication, and after the change the neighboring home agent forwards messages directed to a home address of the mobile node to the care-of address.

17. (Original) An access router according to claim 16, wherein the home agent information notifying section notifies the mobile node of home agent information when requested from the mobile node.

18. (Original) An access router according to claim 16, wherein the home agent information notifying section periodically notifies the mobile node of home agent information.

19. (Currently Amended) A home agent information storing server comprising:

a home agent information storing section for holding home agent information including an address of a home agent which the home agent information storing server

manages;

a home agent information notifying section for notifying any one of a mobile node, access router and home agent in connection to a network of the home agent information selected from the home agent information storing section,

wherein ~~when~~ the home agent information storing server receives a notification ~~for changing the home agent from the mobile node~~ for changing from the home agent to a new home agent, when the mobile node determines that a second communication delay between the mobile node and the new home agent is less than a first communication delay between the mobile node and the home agent, the home agent information storing server notifies the home agent ~~of a changed to agent of the new~~ home agent, the home agent and the ~~changed to new~~ home agent being associated to a same home network of the mobile node, and

wherein the ~~changed to new~~ home agent registers a care-of address that the mobile node is utilizing for communication, and after the change the ~~changed to new~~ home agent forwards messages directed to a home address of the mobile node to the care-of address.

20. (Original) A home agent information storing server according to claim 19, wherein the home agent information storing section further holds any one piece of information of current unoccupied resource and load of the managing home agent.

21. (Original) A home agent information storing server according to claim 20, further comprising a home agent information acquiring section for receiving the information from the managing home agent and updating the home agent information storing section.

22. (Previously Presented) A home agent according to claim 10, further comprising a home agent information acquiring section for acquiring the home agent information from the home agent information storing server comprising:

a home agent information storing section for holding home agent information including an address of a managing home agent; and

a home agent information notifying section for notifying any one of a mobile

node, access router and home agent in connection to a network of the home agent information selected from the home agent information storing section;

wherein the home agent information storing section further holds any one piece of information of current unoccupied resource and load of the managing home agent.

23. (Original) A home agent according to claim 22, characterized to send information of own load and unoccupied resource to the home agent information storing server:

a home agent information storing section for holding home agent information including an address of a managing home agent; and

a home agent information notifying section for notifying any one of a mobile node, access router and home agent in connection to a network of the home agent information selected from the home agent information storing section;

wherein the home agent information storing section further holds any one piece of information of current unoccupied resource and load of the managing home agent.

24. (Original) An access router according to claim 16, further comprising a home agent information acquiring section for getting the home agent information from the home agent information storing server:

a home agent information storing section for holding home agent information including an address of a managing home agent; and

a home agent information notifying section for notifying any one of a mobile node, access router and home agent in connection to a network of the home agent information selected from the home agent information storing section;

wherein the home agent information storing section further holds any one piece of information of current unoccupied resource and load of the managing home agent.

25. (Original) A mobile node according to claim 1, wherein the home agent information acquiring section gets the home agent information from the home agent information storing server:

a home agent information storing section for holding home agent information including an address of a managing home agent; and

a home agent information notifying section for notifying any one of a mobile node, access router and home agent in connection to a network of the home agent information selected from the home agent information storing section;

wherein the home agent information storing section further holds any one piece of information of current unoccupied resource and load of the managing home agent.

26. (Original) A mobile node according to claim 1, wherein the home agent information acquiring section gets information about a home agent notified from the home agent comprising:

a home agent information notifying section for answering a registration refusal in a case that, when receiving a registration request from a mobile node, the home agent is deficient in unoccupied resource; and

a home agent information storing section for storing home agent information including an address and current resource information of another home agent;

wherein the home agent information notifying section answers the registration refusal and selects a home agent suited for a predetermined condition from the home agent information storing section to thereby answer home agent information of the selected home agent.

27. (Original) A mobile node according to claim 26, wherein the home agent selecting section selects, preferentially, a home agent satisfying at least any of conditions of greatest unoccupied resource, minimum load, least hop number and shortest communication delay time.

28. (Currently Amended) A method for mobile communications comprising:

a step of measuring at least any one of a hop number and communication delay time to a belonging home agent by a mobile node;

a step of requesting a belonging home agent to delete from a memory device

registration of the mobile node and requesting a new home agent to store in another memory device registration of the mobile node, when ~~a result of measurement becomes equal to or greater than a predetermined value~~a second communication delay between the mobile node and the new home agent is less than a first communication delay between the mobile node and the belonging home agent;

a step of deleting from the memory device a registration of the mobile node by the belonging home agent; and

a step of registering the mobile node by the new home agent, the belonging home agent and the new home agent being associated to a same home network of the mobile node,

wherein the new home agent registers a care-of address that the mobile node is utilizing for communication, and after the registering step the new home agent forwards messages directed to a home address of the mobile node to the care-of address.

29. (Original) A method for mobile communications according to claim 28, wherein as the new home agent is selected preferentially a home agent satisfying at least any of conditions of greatest unoccupied resource, minimum load, least hop number and shortest communication delay time.

30. (Original) A method for mobile communications according to claim 29, wherein the new home agent is notified from a home agent information managing server for managing information about home agents to the mobile node.